

## Message Text

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TAGS: OVIP, (CLEMENTS)

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE FOR VISIT OF DEPUTY SECRETARY OF  
DEFENSE CLEMENTS VISIT TO PHILIPPINES

REF: SECDEF 130112Z FEB

1) RE PARA 4 REFTEL, PRESS CONFERENCES OR ARRIVAL STATEMENTS BY  
VISITING VIPS ARE NOT CUSTOMARY IN PHILIPPINES. WE DO NOT  
ENVISION THAT PRESS COMMENT ON PART OF DEPUTY SECRETARY WILL  
BE NECESSARY; HOWEVER, FOLLOWING GUIDANCE PROVIDED IN EVENT  
SUCH COMMENT UNAVOIDABLE.

2) PROPOSED Q AND A:

Q. 1. WHAT IS THE U.S. POSITION ON MARTIAL LAW IN THE  
PHILIPPINES?

A. 1. THIS IS A PHILIPPINE INTERNAL AFFAIR ABOUT WHICH IT

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WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR ME TO COMMENT.

Q. 2. WHY IS THE UNITED STATES PROVIDING MILITARY ASSISTANCE  
TO THE PHILIPPINES TO FIGHT MUSLIM REBELS IN THE SOUTH?

A. 2. THE UNITED STATES HAS PROVIDED MILITARY AID TO THE  
PHILIPPINES SINCE 1953 IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS LONG-STANDING  
COMMITMENTS UNDER THE MUTUAL DEFENSE ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT.  
THIS AGREEMENT IS AIMED MAINLY AT ENHANCING THE CAPACITY  
OF THE PHILIPPINES TO DEFEND ITSELF. IT WAS SIGNED LONG  
BEFORE THE CURRENT CONFLICT IN THE SOUTH, AND THERE HAS  
BEEN NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN THE KINDS OR QUANTITIES  
OF MATERIAL WE HAVE SUPPLIED IN RECENT YEARS. JUSMAG  
IS EQUIPMENT-ORIENTED AND THERE HAVE BEEN NO U.S. MILITARY  
ADVISERS IN THE FIELD WITH PHILIPPINE UNITS SINCE THE  
LATE 1960'S

Q. 3. HOW MANY U.S. PERSONNEL ARE ASSIGNED TO JUSMAG?

A. 3. THIRTY-ONE OFFICERS; TEN ENLISTED PERSONNEL AND NINE  
CIVILIANS.

Q. 4. HAS THE PHILIPPINES ASKED FOR THE U.S. FOR MORE MILITARY  
AID SINCE THE ESCALATION OF THE FIGHTING IN MINDANOA?  
(OR IN THIS FISCAL YEAR?)

A. 4. NO, HOWEVER, THEY HAVE ASKED US TO ACCELERATE DELIVERY OF  
ITEMS ALREADY PROGRAMMED IN EARLY YEARS THAT NORMALLY  
HAVE LENGTHY LEAD TIMES. THE PROGRAM HAS AVERAGED ABOUT  
\$15 MILLION IN RECENT YEARS.

Q. 5. WHAT IS THE LEVEL OF U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO THE  
PHILIPPINES THIS FISCAL YEAR?

A. 5. ASSISTANCE WAS \$13.9 MILLION IN FY 74. THE FY 75  
PROGRAM HAS NOT YET BEEN FUNDED. HOWEVER, WE EXPECT IT  
TO BE ABOUT THE SAME AS THOSE IN RECENT YEARS - APPROX.  
\$15 MILLION ANNUALLY.

Q. 6. WHAT EQUIPMENT IS PROVIDED?

A. 6. MAJOR ITEMS INCLUDE PATROL AND AMPHIBIOUS CRAFT FOR  
THE PHILIPPINE NAVY. HELICOPTERS FOR THE PHIL. AIR FORCE.  
CREW-SERVED WEAPONS AND COMMUNICATIONS GEAR FOR THE PHIL.  
ARMY.

Q. 7. WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE U.S. IN THE PROPOSED M-16  
RIFLE PLANT?

A. 7. WE WILL PROVIDE A \$15.6 MILLION FOREIGN MILITARY SALES  
CREDIT WHICH WILL BE REPAYED BY THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT ON  
FAIRLY STANDARD COMMERCIAL TERMS.

Q. 8. HOW MUCH MILITARY EQUIPMENT HAS THE PHILIPPINES BOUGHT  
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FROM THE U.S. THIS FISCAL YEAR OUTSIDE OF THE MILITARY  
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM? WHAT ARE THEY BUYING?

A. 8. THE PHILIPPINES HAS BOUGHT \$7.2 MILLION WORTH OF MILITARY  
MATERIAL TODATE THIS FISCAL YEAR. IT HAS MAINLY BEEN  
AMMUNITION AND SPARE PARTS.

Q. 9. WHAT IS THE PROJECTION FOR FY76 GRANT AND SALES OF MILITARY  
EQUIPMENT TO THE PHILIPPINES?

A. 9. WE CANNOT COMMENT ON THIS BECAUSE IT IS STILL BEING

FORMULATED AND THE BUDGETARY PROCESS AND CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW HAVE NOT YET BEEN COMPLETED.

Q. 10. WHAT IS THE STATUS OF THE BASE NEGOTIATIONS? ARE THEY BEING ACTIVELY CONDUCTED AT THE PRESENT TIME?

A. 10. AS YOU MAY KNOW, TALKS HAVE BEEN HELD FROM TIME TO TIME OVER THE YEARS. THESE TALKS ARE AIMED AT CLARIFYING THE POSITIONS OF EACH GOVERNMENT ON VARIOUS TECHNICAL POINTS. I DO NOT FORESEE ANY MAJOR PROBLEMS THAT CANNOT BE OVERCOME.

Q. 11. IS THERE ANYTHING IN OUR DEFENSE AGREEMENT WITH THE PHILIPPINES THAT COULD COMPEL US TO COMMIT U.S. TROOPS TO FIGHT IN AN INTERNAL CONFLICT?

A. 11. NO.

Q. 12. THE CONGRESS HAS EXPRESSED ITS CONCERN OVER CONTINUING TO PROVIDE MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES HOLDING POLITICAL PRISONERS. HOW DOES THIS AFFECT THE PHILIPPINES?

A. 12. INDIVIDUAL CONGRESSMEN HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR CONCERN ON THIS ISSUE WHICH THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT REGARDS SERIOUSLY.

Q. 13. WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE RESULTS OF THE FEBRUARY REFERENDUM?

A. 13. THIS IS A PHILIPPINE DOMESTIC MATTER AND I HAVE NO COMMENT.

Q. 14. HOW MANY U.S. MILITARY MEN ARE IN THE PHILIPPINES?

A. 14. APPROX. 17,000 PERMANENTLY ASSIGNED (10,000 CLARK; 6,000 SUBIC/CUBI; 1,000ELSEWHERE).

Q. 15. HOW MANY U.S. DEPENDENTS ARE IN THE PHILIPPINES?

A. 15. APPROX. 21,000 (15,000 AT CLARK; 5,500 AT SUBIC/CUBI; AND 500 ELSEWHERE).

Q. 16. HOW MANY FILIPINO EMPLOYEES ARE EMPLOYED ON THE BASES?

A. 16. APPROX. 15,000 AT SUBIC AND ITS RELATED BASES AND 6,000 AT CLARK AND ITS RELATED BASES AS DIRECT HIRE. APPROX. 20,000 CONTRACT, DOMESTIC AND OTHER LABORERS ARE EMPLOYED  
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ON THE BASES.

Q. 17. HOW MANY U.S. DOLLARS ARE SPENT BY THE BASES ON THE PHILIPPINE ECONOMY EACH YEAR?

A. 17. BASES-RELATED SPENDING IN THE PHILIPPINES WAS \$138 MILLION IN 1974.

Q. 18. A LOT HAS BEEN SAID ABOUT THE VALUE OF THE U.S. BASES TO THE U.S. DEFENSE POSTURE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. JUST HOW IMPORTANT ARE SUBIC AND CLARK?

A. 18. THE U.S. HAS, OF COURSE, A NUMBER OF INSTALLATIONS IN THE WESTERN PACIFIC AND CLARK AND SUBIC PLAY IMPORTANT ROLES IN PROVIDING A CAPABILITY FOR U.S. FORCES TO BE FLEXIBLY DEPLOYED IN THIS AREA.

Q. 19. HOW LONG DOES OUR BASE AGREEMENT LAST?

A. 19. UNTIL 1991.

Q. 20. ACCORDING TO SOME REPORTS THE U.S. HAS INTRODUCED

NUCLEAR WEAPONS INTO JAPAN AND OTHER ASIAN COUNTRIES.

ARE THERE NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN THE PHILIPPINES?

A. 20. IT HAS BEEN A LONG-STANDING DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE POLICY  
TO NEITHER CONFIRM NOR DENY THE PRESENCE OF NUCLEAR  
WEAPONS AT ANY BASE OR UNIT.

Q. 21 CAN YOU DISCUSS THE RELATIONS OF THE U.S. MILITARY  
BASES WITH THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AND THE  
LOCAL AREAS SUCH AS ANGELES AND OLONGAPO?

A. 21. THIS IS ONE OF THE THINGS THAT I WILL, OF COURSE,  
DISCUSS WITH PHILIPPINE OFFICIALS DURING MY CURRENT VISIT.  
I SHOULD ADD, HOWEVER, THAT I AM TOLD THAT THE RELATIONSHIPS  
BETWEEN THE U.S. PERSONNEL ON THE BASES AND THEIR  
FILIPINO NEIGHBORS ARE CORDIAL AT ALL LEVELS.

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